

House Watch

A summary of today's House actions;
published daily when the House is in session.



1/17/08

THIRD READING

[HB 5513](#)

(Byrnes)

House Bill 5513 would amend Public Act 299 of 1905, which provides for changing and determining the names of divorced women, to instead provide for changing and determining the names of divorced individuals. The bill would revise the current law to be gender neutral, applying to either or both parties in a divorce action.

- **HB 5513 advanced to the order of 3rd Reading**

[HB 5186](#)

(Jones, R.)

House Bill 5186 would amend EPIC (MCL 700.5305 and 700.5319). In addition to the current duties of a guardian ad litem (GAL) appointed for an individual alleged to be incapacitated, the bill would add a requirement to ask the individual and the petitioner for guardianship about the amount of cash and property readily convertible into cash that is in the individual's estate (liquid assets). An estimate of those assets would have to be included in the report that GALs are required to prepare for the court.

- **Committee Substitute H-1 was adopted**
- **HB 5186 advanced to the order of 3rd Reading**

HB 5187

(Coulouris)

The bill would amend EPIC (MCL 700.5422 and 700.5423) to specifically prohibit a conservator from mortgaging, pledging, or causing a lien to be placed on the protected individual's home without court approval. Currently, a conservator must obtain approval from the court in order to sell or otherwise dispose of the protected individual's real property (in general, land and buildings or fixtures on the land) or interest in real property. A sale or other disposal of real property or an interest in real property can only be approved if, after a hearing with notice to interested persons and consideration of evidence of the value of the property, the court determines the sale or disposal of the real property is in the protected individual's best interest. Under the bill, these provisions would also extend to a conservator's ability to mortgage, pledge, or cause a lien to be placed on the protected individual's real property or interest in real property.

- **HB 5187 advanced to the order of 3rd Reading**

HB 5188

(Steil)

The bill would amend EPIC (MCL 700.5410) to require a conservator to furnish a bond if the estate in question exceeded the small estate threshold. Specifically, a court would have to require the conservator, with some exceptions, to furnish a bond if the court determined that the value of cash and property readily convertible into cash in the estate and in the conservator's control exceeded the small estate threshold for administering a decedent's estate, adjusted under Section 1210 for the year in which the conservator was appointed.

- **HB 5188 advanced to the order of 3rd Reading**